

NEWS

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HIGHLIGHTS OF CHARLOTTE-GASTONIA-ROCK HILL, NC-SC NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY JUNE 2000

Workers in the Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill metropolitan area averaged \$16.12 per hour during June 2000, according to a new survey released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin reported that white-collar workers averaged \$19.70 per hour and accounted for 48 percent of the workers in the area. Blue-collar employees averaged \$13.40 per hour and represented 41 percent of the workforce, while the remainder worked in service occupations and earned \$11.11 per hour. (See table 1.)

The National Compensation Survey (NCS) presents straight-time earnings for occupations in establishments employing 50 or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. The survey excludes agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal Government. This NCS covered 215 firms representing 312,500 workers in the Charlotte metropolitan area, which includes Cabarrus, Gaston, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Rowan, and Union Counties in North Carolina; and York County in South Carolina. Seventy-nine percent of those represented worked in private industry.

In the Charlotte metropolitan area, average hourly wages were published for more than 80 detailed occupations. (See table 1.) Among white-collar workers, accountants and auditors averaged \$19.43 per hour; computer operators, \$17.19; and cashiers, \$7.29. Blue-collar occupations included automobile mechanics earning \$17.60 per hour, industrial machinery repairers at \$14.61, and hand packers and packagers at \$9.71. In the service occupations, correctional institution officers averaged \$12.39 per hour; nursing aides, orderlies and attendants, \$9.07; and cooks, \$8.35.

The NCS also provides broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics. (See tables 2 and 3.) For example, full-time employees in the Charlotte area averaged \$16.75 per hour and part-timers earned \$9.03. Union workers in blue-collar jobs averaged \$17.50 per hour, while their nonunion counterparts made \$12.58. Private industry workers at establishments employing 50-99 workers averaged \$13.38 per hour and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$19.06.

The NCS is part of a statistical program that will eventually integrate three separate surveys of wages and benefits into one comprehensive compensation program increasing the amount of data available. Data provided by the NCS may be used by businesses for establishing pay plans, making decisions concerning plant relocation, and in collective bargaining negotiations. Individuals may use such

data to help choose potential careers. Average rates of pay are also available for levels of work within an occupation based on knowledge, skill, independent judgement, supervision received, and other factors required on the job.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC National Compensation Survey June 2000 (Bulletin 3105-49). While supplies last, single copies of the bulletin are available from the Atlanta Information Office by calling 404-331-3415. In addition, data contained in the bulletin are available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at <http://www.bls.gov/comhome.htm>. Select survey tables can also be obtained from the Bureau's fax-on-demand service in Atlanta by dialing 404-331-3403 and requesting document 9450.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Atlanta Information Office at 404-331-3415 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,(1) all workers:(2) Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC, June 2000

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
All	\$16.12	2.7	\$16.05	3.2	\$16.38	3.3
All excluding sales	16.32	2.7	16.29	3.2	16.43	3.2
White collar	19.70	3.8	20.52	5.1	17.77	3.9
White collar excluding sales	20.57	3.8	21.92	5.1	17.84	3.8
Professional specialty and technical	24.44	4.9	28.07	7.2	20.76	4.4
Professional specialty	23.59	2.9	25.57	4.9	22.12	3.2
Engineers, architects, and surveyors	29.97	7.5	30.03	7.6	—	—
Electrical and electronic engineers	32.67	8.9	32.67	8.9	—	—
Mechanical engineers	30.75	5.8	30.75	5.8	—	—
Engineers, n.e.c.	23.15	20.8	23.15	20.8	—	—
Mathematical and computer scientists	29.06	8.1	29.26	8.3	—	—
Computer systems analysts and scientists	29.06	8.1	29.26	8.3	—	—
Natural scientists	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health related	23.00	8.3	23.59	9.4	22.24	14.1
Registered nurses	21.25	7.5	22.85	12.1	19.34	.7
Teachers, college and university	28.98	5.8	27.41	13.5	—	—
Teachers, except college and university	22.38	2.4	—	—	22.68	2.2
Prekindergarten and kindergarten	20.23	10.6	—	—	—	—
Elementary school teachers	22.29	1.3	20.91	10.5	22.34	1.4
Secondary school teachers	22.38	2.1	—	—	22.24	2.0
Teachers, special education	25.76	5.6	—	—	25.76	5.6
Librarians, archivists, and curators	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social scientists and urban planners	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers	17.25	4.1	—	—	16.67	3.5
Social workers	17.36	4.0	—	—	16.79	3.3
Lawyers and judges	—	—	—	—	—	—
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c.	18.57	12.9	18.61	13.0	—	—
Technical	26.88	15.0	32.19	15.0	12.54	10.9
Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians	16.62	12.8	15.87	21.2	—	—
Licensed practical nurses	14.95	5.1	14.95	5.1	—	—
Health technologists and technicians, n.e.c.	12.74	21.1	—	—	10.14	5.9
Electrical and electronic technicians	22.44	7.1	—	—	—	—
Engineering technicians, n.e.c.	23.12	9.5	24.18	9.3	—	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	34.60	6.3	36.73	7.0	26.51	7.5
Executives, administrators, and managers	38.59	7.5	40.70	8.5	30.48	6.7
Administrators and officials, public administration	34.29	14.1	—	—	35.08	14.7
Financial managers	46.29	8.6	—	—	—	—
Managers, marketing, advertising, and public relations	43.12	16.2	43.19	16.2	—	—
Administrators, education and related fields	28.38	4.0	—	—	28.49	4.3
Managers and administrators, n.e.c.	39.97	12.3	39.97	12.3	—	—
Management related	25.66	7.4	27.77	7.2	17.80	6.3
Accountants and auditors	19.43	4.9	21.25	4.6	—	—
Other financial officers	35.44	13.6	35.44	13.6	—	—
Personnel, training, and labor relations specialists	19.18	5.8	—	—	—	—
Purchasing agents and buyers, n.e.c.	27.85	15.3	27.85	15.3	—	—
Sales	12.19	11.2	12.28	11.4	—	—
Supervisors, sales	16.70	16.7	16.70	16.7	—	—
Sales workers, other commodities	8.52	11.3	8.52	11.3	—	—
Cashiers	7.29	4.3	7.24	4.5	—	—
Administrative support, including clerical	12.33	2.1	12.85	2.8	10.80	2.2
Supervisors, distribution, scheduling, and adjusting clerks	17.81	12.9	17.81	12.9	—	—
Computer operators	17.19	2.3	17.19	2.3	—	—
Secretaries	13.68	4.5	15.06	3.0	11.91	7.5
Receptionists	9.94	4.2	9.71	3.8	—	—
Order clerks	12.14	3.0	12.14	3.0	—	—
Library clerks	10.03	2.7	—	—	10.04	2.9
Records clerks, n.e.c.	11.96	4.7	11.98	5.3	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings, (1) all workers: (2) Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC, June 2000 — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
White collar —Continued						
Administrative support, including clerical —Continued						
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks	\$12.53	3.4	\$12.66	3.7	—	—
Telephone operators	13.43	7.5	13.43	7.5	—	—
Dispatchers	12.56	11.5	—	—	\$11.30	3.4
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks	11.03	4.6	11.03	4.6	—	—
Stock and inventory clerks	13.06	9.7	13.53	9.8	—	—
Material recording, scheduling, and distribution clerks, n.e.c.	16.63	6.9	16.63	6.9	—	—
Bill and account collectors	15.02	12.4	—	—	—	—
General office clerks	11.21	3.4	11.26	5.1	11.12	2.7
Teachers' aides	9.17	1.1	—	—	9.18	1.1
Blue collar	13.40	2.9	13.46	3.1	12.30	4.7
Precision production, craft, and repair						
Supervisors, mechanics and repairers	31.66	9.0	32.75	9.8	—	—
Automobile mechanics	17.60	3.6	—	—	—	—
Bus, truck, and stationary engine mechanics	15.58	3.9	15.96	3.5	—	—
Industrial machinery repairers	14.61	3.8	14.61	3.8	—	—
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c.	21.89	4.9	22.31	4.6	—	—
Electricians	14.95	6.6	14.93	6.7	—	—
Electrical power installers and repairers	18.94	7.3	—	—	—	—
Construction trades, n.e.c.	11.30	5.5	—	—	10.91	4.1
Supervisors, production	19.88	5.0	19.93	5.2	—	—
Butchers and meat cutters	9.45	7.3	9.45	7.3	—	—
Inspectors, testers, and graders	16.13	15.0	16.13	15.0	—	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors						
Winding and twisting machine operators	9.26	4.6	9.26	4.6	—	—
Knitting, looping, taping, and weaving machine operators	10.76	6.0	10.76	6.0	—	—
Mixing and blending machine operators	11.80	5.9	11.80	5.9	—	—
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c.	14.35	5.9	14.35	5.9	—	—
Assemblers	10.83	9.7	10.83	9.7	—	—
Production inspectors, checkers and examiners ..	12.90	12.4	12.90	12.4	—	—
Transportation and material moving						
Truck drivers	15.34	9.0	16.09	9.1	—	—
Bus drivers	12.84	8.1	—	—	9.44	1.8
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators ..	13.13	7.3	13.13	7.3	—	—
Miscellaneous material moving equipment operators, n.e.c.	16.43	7.4	16.43	7.4	—	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers						
Helpers, construction trades	11.28	7.1	—	—	—	—
Production helpers	11.23	9.3	11.23	9.3	—	—
Stock handlers and baggers	10.50	9.1	10.50	9.1	—	—
Machine feeders and offbearers	9.31	10.9	9.31	10.9	—	—
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c.	11.29	10.4	11.32	10.5	—	—
Hand packers and packagers	9.71	2.0	9.71	2.0	—	—
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c.	9.40	5.0	9.39	5.1	—	—
Service						
Protective service	16.47	4.7	—	—	16.47	4.7
Supervisors, police and detectives	23.02	7.3	—	—	23.02	7.3
Police and detectives, public service	16.38	4.4	—	—	16.38	4.4
Correctional institution officers	12.39	3.1	—	—	12.39	3.1
Food service	7.08	6.2	6.89	6.8	8.56	5.9
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders	4.88	22.0	4.88	22.0	—	—
Waiters and waitresses	4.76	24.1	4.76	24.1	—	—
Other food service	8.00	4.1	7.89	4.6	8.56	5.9
Cooks	8.35	3.4	8.24	3.3	—	—
Kitchen workers, food preparation	9.21	6.7	9.21	6.7	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings, (1) all workers: (2) Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC, June 2000 — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Service —Continued						
Food service —Continued						
Other food service —Continued						
Food preparation, n.e.c.	\$7.49	4.5	\$7.32	5.7	—	—
Health service	8.95	2.5	8.98	2.5	\$8.86	8.3
Health aides, except nursing	8.65	6.5	—	—	8.86	8.3
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants	9.07	2.6	9.07	2.6	—	—
Cleaning and building service	8.34	3.0	8.24	3.9	8.55	3.1
Janitors and cleaners	8.29	3.1	8.22	4.2	8.40	3.1
Personal service	18.84	13.9	—	—	9.12	7.1

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

³ A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around

a sample estimate.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means not elsewhere classified. Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately. IN THIS SURVEY, THE NONRESPONSE RATE FOR PRIVATE INDUSTRY EXCEEDED REGULAR SURVEY STANDARDS FOR PUBLICATION. ACCORDINGLY, USERS SHOULD INTERPRET THESE RESULTS WITH THIS LIMITATION IN MIND.

Table 2. Selected worker characteristics: Mean hourly earnings⁽¹⁾ by occupational group,⁽²⁾ National Compensation Survey, Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC, June 2000

Occupational group	Private industry and State and local government					
	Full-time workers ³	Part-time workers ³	Union ⁴	Nonunion ⁴	Time ⁵	Incentive ⁵
	Mean					
All occupations	\$16.75	\$9.03	\$21.61	\$15.58	\$16.22	\$14.74
All excluding sales	16.81	9.63	21.61	15.77	16.46	14.27
White collar	20.58	10.73	44.14	19.08	19.77	18.23
White-collar excluding sales	21.04	13.37	44.22	19.90	20.64	—
Professional specialty and technical	24.78	19.22	—	22.39	24.44	—
Professional specialty	23.61	23.22	—	23.59	23.59	—
Technical	28.11	—	—	18.71	26.88	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	34.60	—	—	34.60	34.35	—
Sales	15.04	6.66	—	12.19	10.88	17.98
Administrative support, including clerical	12.52	10.22	15.43	12.19	12.44	—
Blue collar	13.65	7.75	17.50	12.58	13.44	13.13
Precision production, craft, and repair	16.58	—	20.63	15.95	16.55	17.13
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	12.09	—	18.28	11.21	12.43	10.45
Transportation and material moving	14.75	9.79	17.05	13.23	13.59	17.27
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	11.16	7.12	14.48	9.80	10.73	—
Service	12.29	6.72	—	10.15	11.11	—
	Relative error ⁶ (percent)					
All occupations	2.7	7.2	9.3	2.8	2.6	9.2
All excluding sales	2.7	8.2	9.3	2.8	2.6	9.9
White collar	3.8	11.7	33.7	3.7	3.9	16.6
White-collar excluding sales	3.7	14.4	33.7	3.5	3.8	—
Professional specialty and technical	4.8	24.5	—	3.1	4.9	—
Professional specialty	2.8	23.9	—	2.9	2.9	—
Technical	14.3	—	—	7.3	15.0	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	6.3	—	—	6.3	6.7	—
Sales	11.4	3.2	—	11.2	12.0	23.0
Administrative support, including clerical	2.0	8.2	7.1	2.1	2.0	—
Blue collar	3.0	4.5	5.3	3.2	2.6	10.5
Precision production, craft, and repair	3.0	—	4.8	3.3	3.2	5.5
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	4.5	—	4.0	5.0	4.0	11.6
Transportation and material moving	5.2	4.0	9.7	4.5	3.4	11.8
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	3.9	3.0	12.4	3.1	3.8	—
Service	5.5	7.5	—	5.0	5.7	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

³ Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment. Therefore, a worker with a 35-hour-per-week schedule might be considered a full-time employee in one establishment, but classified as part-time in another firm, where a 40-hour week is the minimum full-time schedule.

⁴ Union workers are those whose wages are determined through collective bargaining.

⁵ Time workers' wages are based solely on an hourly rate or salary; incentive workers are those whose wages are at least partially based on productivity payments such as piece rates, commissions, and production bonuses.

⁶ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria. IN THIS SURVEY, THE NONRESPONSE RATE FOR PRIVATE INDUSTRY EXCEEDED REGULAR SURVEY STANDARDS FOR PUBLICATION. ACCORDINGLY, USERS SHOULD INTERPRET THESE RESULTS WITH THIS LIMITATION IN MIND.

Table 3. Establishment employment size: Mean hourly earnings(1) by occupational group,(2) private industry, National Compensation Survey, Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC, June 2000

Occupational group	Full-time and part-time workers				
	All private industry workers	50 - 99 workers ³	100 workers or more		
			Total	100 - 499 workers	500 workers or more
	Mean				
All occupations	\$16.05	\$13.38	\$16.79	\$14.89	\$19.06
All excluding sales	16.29	13.45	17.04	15.03	19.35
White collar	20.52	16.12	21.55	19.79	23.58
White-collar excluding sales	21.92	17.33	22.82	21.07	24.64
Professional specialty and technical	28.07	21.49	28.90	22.14	33.48
Professional specialty	25.57	22.55	26.15	24.47	27.29
Technical	32.19	—	32.83	18.78	42.32
Executive, administrative, and managerial	36.73	31.36	37.73	36.18	40.38
Sales	12.28	12.76	12.03	12.88	—
Administrative support, including clerical	12.85	11.51	13.16	12.98	13.36
Blue collar	13.46	12.89	13.62	11.93	15.63
Precision production, craft, and repair	16.76	16.61	16.82	15.38	18.29
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	12.07	10.17	12.48	10.75	14.43
Transportation and material moving	14.88	13.99	15.06	12.92	16.59
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	10.66	9.71	10.94	10.11	12.68
Service	9.78	7.33	10.97	7.59	15.77
	Relative error ⁴ (percent)				
All occupations	3.2	7.7	3.7	5.8	4.3
All excluding sales	3.2	7.1	3.7	5.8	4.2
White collar	5.1	14.3	5.5	7.2	8.7
White-collar excluding sales	5.1	13.7	5.5	7.2	8.4
Professional specialty and technical	7.2	14.5	7.7	5.7	10.4
Professional specialty	4.9	15.0	5.1	7.7	6.5
Technical	15.0	—	15.2	8.0	18.8
Executive, administrative, and managerial	7.0	20.3	7.3	7.4	15.3
Sales	11.4	20.5	13.7	13.8	—
Administrative support, including clerical	2.8	5.4	3.4	5.3	4.3
Blue collar	3.1	5.6	3.7	4.9	4.1
Precision production, craft, and repair	3.2	5.6	3.9	4.7	5.9
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	4.5	8.0	5.2	7.4	4.9
Transportation and material moving	5.3	8.7	6.2	6.0	7.4
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	3.8	8.7	4.5	4.2	9.4
Service	8.2	4.9	10.5	8.1	11.7

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

³ Establishments classified with 50-99 workers may contain establishments with fewer than 50 due to staff reductions between survey sampling and collection.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

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